Date

Name of intended recipient

Address of intended recipient

Subject: Request for Recognition of Respiratory Therapists During Respiratory Therapy Week (October 24-30, 2021)

The Canadian Society of Respiratory Therapists (CSRT) celebrates Respiratory Therapy Week annually. This week-long celebration serves to educate the public about the varied roles and responsibilities of respiratory therapists (RTs) and to raise awareness of the significant contribution made by respiratory therapists across our health care system. This year, Respiratory Therapy Week runs from **October 24th to 30th, 2021**.

Working across Canada’s healthcare system, respiratory therapists provide essential care to patients of all ages. They are highly trained health professionals dedicated providing the best possible cardio-respiratory care by staying at the forefront of all available research and technology. They use their expertise in the assessment and management of respiratory diseases, in patient and family education, and in the resuscitation and stabilization of critically ill or injured patients. Respiratory therapists work in hospitals, in clinics and in the community to help members of your community breathe easier.

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, our health care system has been relying on respiratory therapists. As frontline workers, they have been tirelessly providing care to those infected by COVID-19. The nature of their role and the care they provide requires them to be work alongside critically ill patients, often performing life sustaining procedures at the patient’s head – the most infectious region for providing patient care during a respiratory pandemic. Respiratory therapists have also been performing COVID-19 testing and providing COVID-19 vaccines. And, as patients return home to recover from COVID-19 infections or as they face long-COVID, respiratory therapists are there providing respiratory support and education.

Respiratory therapists have also played important roles behind the front lines of the pandemic. They have been instrumental in preparing at every level: advising government, mobilizing supplies, designing pandemic ventilators and adjusting protocols to ensure patients receive optimal, evidence-informed care. And, they have continued to provide essential care to a wide range of patients across our health care system who have not been afflicted by COVID-19.

As a respiratory therapist serving the community of **XXXX** it is an honor for me to request, on behalf of all respiratory therapists, that the community of **XXXX** consider proclaiming the above week “Respiratory Therapy Week”, in recognition of the valuable role of the respiratory therapists within the community. **XXXX (name of community)** has XXXX respiratory therapists working in many environments, and I feel that this would be an appropriate way to honor their contributions. Should a proclamation not be possible, I would welcome and appreciate any other form of public recognition that yourself and Council deem appropriate.

Sincerely,

Your name

Your contact information